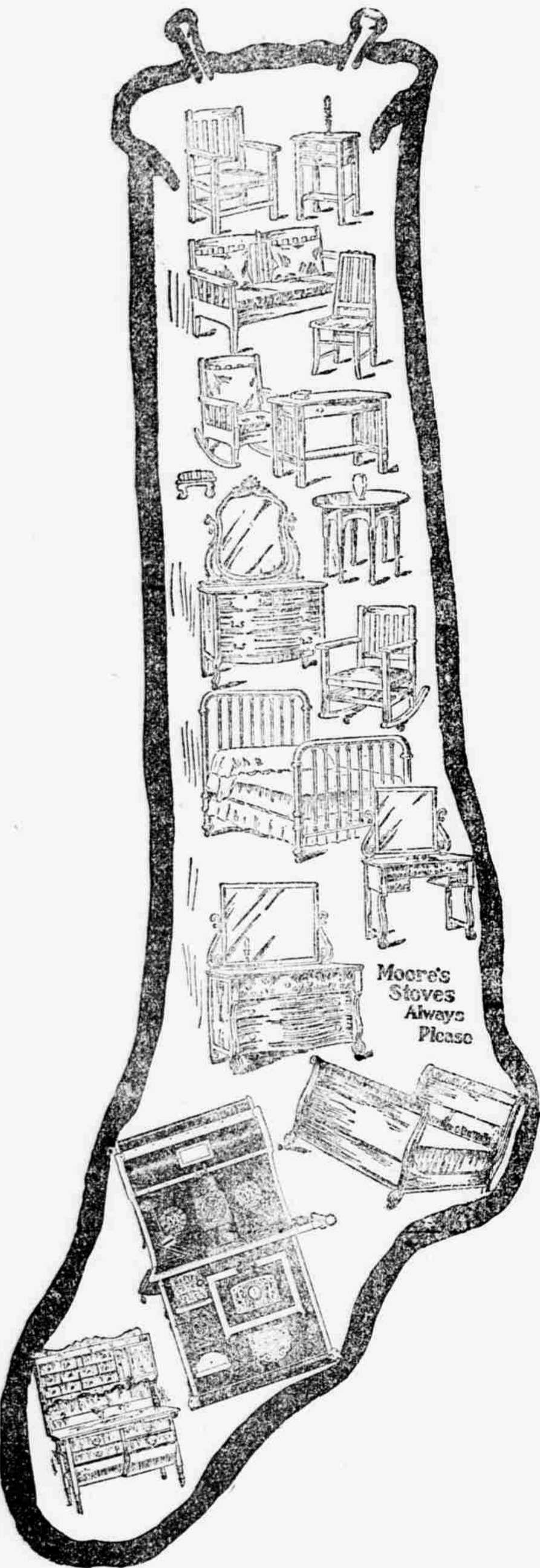


Frank Fischer's Holiday Stocking

is full of up-to-date ideas for presents. Look through this stocking, and also take notice of the other popular suggestions



Aluminum Coffee Percolators
Nickel Plated Ware
Silver Knives, Forks and Spoons
Stag Handle Carving Sets
Individual Carving Sets
Japanese China, Glass Ware
and Dishes of all styles
Japanese Straw Baskets and Lacquer Ware

For the Children

Dolls, dressed and undressed, doll heads and bodies. See the large doll in the Display Window.

Barney & Berry Skates

for both young and old

Sleds and coasters. The automatic coasters. A full line of trunks, suit cases and telescopes. New Home, White and New Royal Sewing Machines. (All Standard makes.) Green Philippine Fibre Rush Furniture. High grade Reed Furniture, including Foot Stools, Tables, Boudoir Boxes and the handy Sewing and Work Baskets. Weathered Oak Rockers, Book Cases, Magazine and Umbrella Stands. All sizes of Kitchen Cabinets, and Couches.

This large display of goods suitable for Holiday presents will greatly interest you. Do not forget to call and see them.

FRANK FISCHER
Hardware and Furniture.

STERLING SUN.

As Sterling has saloons and none of the neighboring towns have any, it will be a good opportunity to make comparisons during the year as to relative business conditions, amount of drunkenness and other disputed questions as to prohibition and saloons. There are a great many temperance people who do not believe in, but discourage the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; who are not prohibitionists, so-called, because they do not believe that prohibition of the liquor traffic prohibits, nor is it the best way to control the use of intoxicating liquors.

KEARNEY DEMOCRAT.

Editor F. L. Whedon writes:
A corporation lawyer ought to know better than we do, because we are not a corporation lawyer, why the people living in any of the outlying townships in Buffalo county should not be permitted to vote to control the actions of a municipality or municipal corporation. Cities and towns are separated and segregated from the control of the county government by statute and it is in violation of law and the constitution of the state for a citizen of Logan township to come to Kearney or go to Elm Creek and cast his vote upon any question or upon any proposition which is being voted upon by the voters of those corporations. He becomes a criminal the moment he does so. He is not, should not, and the courts will not give him legal right to have a voice in such local government, because to give him such a voice in the municipal government would be to give him representation without taxation, which would be destructive to the principle of home rule, would be illegal and un-American in every sentiment. The constitution and the statutes do not abide in the principles of county option, because they protect towns and villages against the domination and encroachment of a larger number of voters throughout the county in which they are situated, who are not taxed to maintain municipal or corporate government and have no more right under the statute and the constitution of controlling or shaping the affairs of those towns and villages than has the city of Kearney to dominate and vote upon the affairs of Ravenna or Shelton. The plan of county option is to have the county dominate the city of Kearney, providing county option should receive a majority of the votes within the county, but permit Kearney to work out its own salvation if a majority of the votes within the county should be cast against county option. Kearney always has, and we believe always will be perfectly able to understand its own affairs—what it wants and what it does not want—what it can afford and what it cannot afford—better than the voters of Logan township do or can.

LOUP CITY STANDARD-GAUGE.

The saloons closed their doors at noon Tuesday, their license having expired. It has been a dry town since, but every one seems to satisfy their thirst as they did when the saloons were open. Just the other evening a case of the best that money can buy came in from Kansas City. Does that look like you can shut it out of the city? It will be had when it is desired no matter how the "Water Apostles" arrange matters, so let 'em go.

SCHUYLER FREE LANCE.

Hon. John C. Sprecher, editor of the Schuyler Free Lance, in a recent issue of his interesting and ably-edited paper, says:

"The leading business firms and individuals of Omaha have organized what is known as the Merchants' and Manufacturers' association for the express purpose of fighting not alone prohibition in this state, but county option as well. And those business men are not brewers nor distillers nor saloon keepers nor 'boozers,' but are the leading business men of Omaha who know the serious effect upon business prohibition has and also realize that county option is unfair. They favor the present Slocumb law, which is fair to all elements and permits the majority of any community to rule. That association has a press bureau and that bureau is sending out literature as well as furnishing the local press with articles and plate matter. So far as the association and its mission are concerned, the Free Lance editor is in harmony with them and their opposition to prohibition and county option is in accord with us. We agree in general with the matter, which is simply presenting their side of the question.

LOUP CITY STANDARD-GAUGE.

Every voter should clearly understand the situation and if he wants a law passed that allows his neighbor miles away to tell him what to do then he should vote for the representative or senator that will pass it. If he desires to govern himself and grant the other man the same right then elect a man who is against county option. Don't be fooled on the word local option, we have that—county option despoils that privilege. Suppose the fight that the fanatics are making for county option is defeated at the polls, what have they lost? Not one privilege, or power; but if they win, they have succeeded in winding the people in one more mesh called law, that robs you of your liberty. Don't forget that your liberties are easily given away, but once gone are mighty hard to recover.

HASTINGS TRIBUNE.

That you may better understand just what these 150 business men are praying for we print a copy of their

petition, which follows:

"We, the undersigned citizens and business men of Hastings, Neb., recognizing the imperative necessity of continuing the established policy of government, wherein the majority shall rule, believing the business interests of this city are best protected by following the expressed will of the majority, respectfully call your attention to the fact that at the last municipal election a majority of 206 votes were cast for the policy of local license and that the general business of this city is suffering from the effects of the present policy.

"We, therefore, pray your honorable body to at once take up and act upon the several petitions for liquor licenses, now on file with the city clerk."

GRAND ISLAND INDEPENDENT.

At its state meeting held in Hastings recently the anti-saloon league declared its opposition to the Slocumb law and expressed itself in favor of the repeal of the same. It also declared itself in favor of the county option law, evidently as a temporary measure. The Slocumb law permits of prohibition for every community which wants it. The county option law permits of people outside of a community governing such community—provided they will govern it one certain way.

SCHUYLER FREE LANCE.

The prohibition element in Nebraska promises to be very active and they also give evidence of being as unprincipled as they are aggressive. Abuse and misrepresentation never win anything and that is their principal means of attack. This editor prefers law and order rather than the opposite and prefers licensed saloons in lieu of bootlegging and so stands by the Slocumb law.

PENDER TIMES.

There are lots of good intelligent people who do not believe in the liquor traffic who do, however, believe that while it is with us it can best be regulated by local license, which is far more preferable than bootlegging and other attendant evils even prohibition towns must put up with, to say nothing in reference to the question of revenue and the wishes of the majority of the community.

GREELEY CITIZEN.

One of the best weekly newspapers in Nebraska is the Greeley Citizen, published by Messrs. E. P. and E. E. Compton. Its editorials are uniformly well written and forceful. Its issue of June 5 contained the following:

"It is but just to state that the Merchants' and Manufacturers' association is not a saloon organization, nor is there a saloon man (either wholesale or retail) nor a brewer among its members. It is an organization of manufacturers and wholesale and retail merchants of that city banded together for the distinct purpose of working for what they deem for the best interest of Omaha and the state. Some of the best and most influential papers in the state have published the article and we call our readers' attention to it on the last page.

"The Merchants' and Manufacturers' association or the Anti Saloon League should enjoy equal facilities at the hands of the Nebraska press and, with few exceptions—notably our contemporary—they will, and a full and frank discussion of any public question will never injure the morals of any one, and no one but a hypocrite would object."

THE WYMOREAN.

E. M. Burnham, editor of the Wymorean, expresses this view of the subject:

"If prohibition prohibits, I am for it. If voting the saloons out of Wymore means that the liquor traffic will still be continued underground, by bootleggers and in holes in the walls, I say license the saloons, and have the liquor business carried on in a way that gives the city a sum of money, which is badly needed, and conducted by men whom we know and who are good citizens. In towns and states where saloons have been shut out, the liquor traffic has been transferred from responsible hands to outlaws and scoundrels, and from an open business to an underground one. I do not believe that shutting out the saloons in Wymore will stop the sale of liquor and for that reason I am for local license."

COLUMBUS TELEGRAM.

Hon. Edgar Howard, one of the ablest democratic editors in the state, makes the following editorial reply to an anonymous correspondent:

"This liquor problem is a large problem, and it cannot be settled and settled right by men who are so lacking in courage as to write an anonymous postal card. It is a question which needs the best of thought of all good citizens. Men may honestly differ as to the mode of dealing with this great question. Some men are honest in the opinion that the traffic in intoxicating liquors should be wholly prohibited. Other men honestly believe the traffic should be regulated by law. Why should it seem necessary on the part of those who believe in prohibition always to question the honesty and integrity of those who do not believe in prohibition?"

SCRIBNER NEWS.

In its issue of June 5, the Scribner News says:

"A great deal of misrepresentation has been put in circulation in regard to the Merchants and Manufacturers' association of Omaha which is making a strong and dignified fight against prohibition, and what is still worse, county option. The association is composed of leading business men of

Omaha whose names are familiar throughout the state. No distiller, brewer or liquor dealer is eligible to membership.

"Now if those advocates of prohibition will read and consider the weekly columns furnished by the above named association, they will notice that some of the best business men of the state are strictly against county option."

WESTERN NEBRASKA OBSERVER.

Kimball, Neb., May 26, 1908. Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association: Gentlemen: I came here over a year ago from Kansas where I lived fifteen years. I had ample opportunity to observe the workings, or rather, the non-working qualities of the prohibitory law. I am sick and tired of drug-store saloons and joints which pay no license and cause more drunkenness than open saloons. The Slocumb law in Nebraska is all right as it now stands and needs no changing. A saloon run strictly in accordance with this law is a great deal more to be desired than a "dry" town with its drug stores, its bootleggers, and its numerous shipments of mail-order booze and consequent drunkenness.—Very respectfully, R. D. Wilson.

SCHUYLER FREE LANCE.

Schuyler, Neb., May 29, 1908.—Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association: Gentlemen: In response to your letter of recent date, will say that I am opposed to statutory prohibition in Nebraska and am a great believer in the efficiency of the present Slocumb law, which is a measure designed to fit the prevailing sentiment of any community. It is a model local option law and, regardless of what any person's individual opinion may be, he can endorse the provisions of the Slocumb law. Public sentiment is always stronger than statutory provision and the latter becomes obsolete when that sentiment is not in harmony with it.

Under the provisions of the Slocumb law, in communities where the prevailing sentiment is against saloons, the people can have prohibition as effective as they could under the most rigid prohibitory laws, and in communities where prohibition would not prohibit and would be a farce, the traffic can be held in check under a wise license system and bootlegging and the attendant lawlessness will not be the common method. If the Slocumb law cannot be enforced in a community, most surely any prohibitory law cannot be. Enforced legislative provisions of a personal nature must follow in the wake of public sentiment, and the wise Slocumb law seems to have been framed to fit the conditions of each and every community. Public sentiment as expressed by the majority makes each community one of prohibition or one of various degrees of high license under not alone the general restrictions of the state law, but under additional provisions of ordinance at the will of the local majority as well. The Slocumb law is the best possible, and should be let alone. If there is a genuine criticism of that law, it is that it gives the saloon man little right and subjects him too much to the malice of a citizen.

I am also opposed to the proposed county option, for it destroys, in a measure, local option and the principle of home rule. It is unjust in that it gives men a vote as to municipal affairs when they pay no municipal taxes and have no real interest in the municipal government. Taxation without representation all Americans agree is wrong, and the reverse is equally so.—Very truly yours, John C. Sprecher.

GENEVA GAZETTE.

Syracuse, Nebraska, went dry and the town board had to cut expenses to meet the pocketbook they were to carry for the year so they cut out the street lighting service, reduced the salary of the treasurer, did away with the office of attorney and made the water and light commissioner act as town clerk.

The prohibitory law in Georgia, which went into effect the first of January, stopped the manufacture and open sale of liquor. The secretary of the Commercial club at Savannah says that the club has sent agents over the state to ascertain the effect of the law upon the business of Georgia. He writes that insofar as an estimate can be made at this time, he finds that merchants are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars of trade a month, which is going to outside dealers of liquor who are shipping liquor into Georgia in original packages. The commercial clubs of Georgia have combined to see what can be done to keep such money in the state. They hold that there is just as much liquor being consumed as ever.

Be it remembered that local option as defined by the Slocumb liquor law affords the fullest measure of home rule. It is a vital quality of the law. Destroy it, and the whole structure must fall. So-called county option, as defined by the Anti-Saloon league, is intended to destroy this element of home rule by putting the power in the hands of rural voters to dictate to the taxpayers of villages and towns as to what they shall or shall not do.

Pretended county option means that the limits of villages and towns shall be ignored, when the people of a whole county may be permitted to vote to prevent the issuing of liquor licenses. With such a law as that in effect, the home rule of villages and towns would be destroyed, and their policy with respect to the control of the liquor traffic would be dictated by the farmers of the county, who pay no taxes in the towns.

